

**NATIONAL ORGANIZATION ON
DISABILITY**
www.nod.org

April 23, 2002

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Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

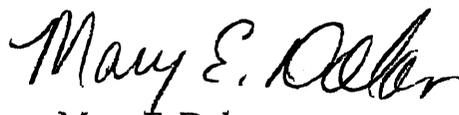
Re: Year 2000 Biennial Regulatory Review-
Amendment of Part 22
WT Docket No. 01-108
Ex Parte Communication

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The National Organization on Disability (N.O.D.) submits the attached letter to supplement the record in the above-referenced proceeding.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(a), an original and one copy of this letter are being filed with your office. Please associate this letter with the file in the above-captioned proceeding.

Sincerely,


Mary E. Dolan
Vice President

cc: Thomas Sugrue
Dane Snowden
James Schlichting
David Furth
Roger Noel
Peter Tenhula
Bryan Tramont
Sam Feder
Paul Margie

It's ability, not disability, that counts.

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April 19, 2002

The Honorable Michael Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman:

It has come to the attention of the National Organization on Disability (N.O.D.) that the FCC is considering elimination of the analog compatibility standard. I write to encourage the FCC to retain the system as it is still widely used by many Americans, especially those with hearing impairments.

The National Center for Health Statistics reported in 1991 that there are over 4.5 million Americans with hearing impairments. As you are aware, the analog system is most compatible for people with hearing loss. Eliminating that system would inhibit their ability to communicate, whether it be in an emergency or in day to day living. The analog system plays a critical role in the lives of millions of Americans.

The National Organization on Disability (N.O.D.) is a national non-profit organization headquartered in Washington DC. Our mission is to expand the participation and contribution of American's 54 million men, women and children with disabilities in American life. N.O.D. is the only national non-profit disability organization which all disabilities and all age groups.

I appreciate your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,


Alan A. Reich
President

It's ability, not disability, that counts.